The validity of sanction in respect of M/s Binkam Shipping Services (Pvt.) Limited and M/s Great Eastrn Shipping Company has since expired. In case of M/s West Coast Hoverline (Pvt.) Limited, the application was rejected as it was deficient in details.

Appointing the Telephone Advisory Committees in the country

489. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for Government not appointig the Telephone Advisory Committees in the country for the last two years despite assurances to that effect to appoint them shortly; and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to appoint the Goa Telephone Advisory Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Regulations regarding constitution of Telecom Advisory Committees (IACs) were under examination for some time. After these were finalised, only 51 out of about 120 committees due to be formed were constituted in March, 1991 by the then caretaker Government. The constitution of these committees is under review. The remaining TACs including Goa TAC are under process of constitution.

Attestation of passport forms by M.Ps./MLAs./MLCs.

490. SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have reconsidered the issue of re-permitting the M.Ps./M.L.As./M.L.Cs;/of attesting passport forms;

(b) if so, whether directive have been issued and whether they will be implemented; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) During discussion in Parliament including discussions in the Rajya Sabha on 30th May 1990, a view was expressed that Members of Parliament etc. would not like to take on this additional responsibility for verifying the antecedants of applicants. However if Members of Parliament feel that they would like to take on this responsibility, Government have no objction to reconsidering the matter.

Repairs and maintenance of Bombay-Goa National Highway

491. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some amount has been allocated for the repairs and maintenance of Bombay-Goa National Highway during current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in the repair work of the Highway and the time by which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 1991-92 an amount of Rs. 230 lakhs has been allocated for the maintenance and repairs of Bombay-Goa National Highway No. 17 to the concerned State of Maharastra and Goa against ordinary repairs, periodical renewals, flood damage repairs, etc.

(c) Maintenance and repairs is a continuous process and these activities are pursued throughout the year as per actual needs to keep National Highways in traffic-worthy condition.